<u>REMARKS</u>

Applicants request favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of all outstanding rejections, and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1 and 3-7 are pending in this application, of which Claims 1, 6, and 7 are independent. Claim 2 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1 and 3-7 have been amended. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the originally-filed disclosure. Thus, Applicants submit that no new matter has been presented.

Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over <u>Hayashi et al.</u> (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0059301). Claims 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over <u>Hayashi et al.</u> Applicants traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Claims 1, 6, and 7 relate to an apparatus, method, and computer readable medium storing a program for causing a computer to perform a method, respectively, for recording images of an eye to be examined. A plurality of images and image formation times are acquired from a first communication line, and a plurality of image sensing correlation information sets, including information sensing times, is acquired from a second communication line. An image (of the plurality of images of the eye) is correlated with an information set (of the plurality of image sensing correlation information sets) when a difference between the image formation time of the image and the image sensing time of the information set is within a predetermined range. In such a case, a new file is recorded including the correlated image and information set.

<u>Hayashi et al.</u> relates to a technique wherein patient information data, image data of an eye to be examined, and image capturing time data are stored. In particular, <u>Hayashi et al.</u>

discloses in paragraph [0110] that, "To the inputted image data, the patient's data inputted during the patient registration, the data for eye examination set using the set button 74 prior to the image data input, and image input time data are allocated (attached) automatically." However, Hayashi et al. does not suggest correlating an image with an information set *when a difference between the image formation time of the image and the image sensing time of the information set is within a predetermined range, and recording a new file including the correlated image and information set*. Therefore, Hayashi et al. does not teach or suggest the embodiment of Applicants' invention described by Claims 1, 6, and 7.

Applicants submit that Claims 1, 6, and 7 are allowable over Hayashi et al., for the above-noted reasons. The other art of record does not remedy these deficiencies of Hayashi et al. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claims 1, 6, and 7 are allowable. The remaining claims in this application are dependent on Claim 1, and are thus allowable by virtue of their dependency, and for defining other patentable features of Applicants' invention. Independent consideration thereof is requested.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Applicants request favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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